

**STANISLAUS COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

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ADAM CHRISTIANSON, SHERIFF - CORONER

PRESS RELEASE

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Riverbank Police Services to Start Riverbank Senior Outreach Program

Riverbank, CA – Riverbank Police Services in cooperation with the Riverbank Federated Women's Club and Catholic Charities have partnered to form the Riverbank Senior Outreach Program. The program, designed to check on senior citizens who may need assistance, will use local volunteers to provide seniors with everything from basic necessities to educational information on scams and elder abuse prevention. Volunteers will work directly with law enforcement if physical or financial abuse is suspected and will work with community members if other services are needed.

Recently, detectives found a stolen checkbook belonging to a local senior during a parole search. When contacted, the victim knew her mail had been stolen, but wasn't sure what to do and didn't report the theft to law enforcement. "This program will help protect our senior citizens", said Riverbank Police Services Chief Bill Pooley.

During the investigation, detectives noticed the victim's home was in need of some general maintenance and repair. She was using a portable space heater which was deemed unsafe and noticed a broken window which was the result of recent vandalism. Detectives contacted the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Department who responded and installed new smoke detectors in the home. Firefighters also donated a new space heater and representatives from Home Depot assisted with the broken window. At the same time, they installed a window mounted air conditioner which was previously purchased but never installed again, because the elderly home owner didn't know who to call. Volunteers who were present assisted with cleaning the victim's home and taking care of some much needed yard work.

"This is just one example of how we can use community partnerships to build programs, using volunteers, that help us protect and serve our senior citizens", said Sheriff Adam Christianson.

Volunteers undergo limited background checks and are fingerprinted before joining the program. To assist in recognizing signs of elder abuse and knowing all of the resources that are available to senior citizens, training is provided by members of Riverbank Police Services and Adult Protective Services.

[MORE](#)

Chief Pooley and his team have been actively engaged in building and strengthening community partnerships which has a positive affect on the quality of life in Riverbank.

If you know of a senior who may need assistance or you're interested in becoming a Senior Outreach Volunteer, please contact Community Service Officer Gina Reno at (209) 869-7162.

For all media related inquires please call (209) 525-7024 or e-mail news@stanislaussheriff.com

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